



NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 1, 2008

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FCC CONSENTS WITH CONDITIONS TO VERIZON WIRELESS ACQUISITION OF RURAL CELLULAR CORPORATION'S LICENSES, AUTHORIZATIONS, AND SPECTRUM MANAGER LEASES

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today approved with conditions, the transfer of control of licenses held by Rural Cellular Corporation (RCC) and its subsidiaries to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless).

In analyzing Verizon Wireless's proposed acquisition of RCC and its subsidiaries, the FCC examined the market for mobile telephony services and concluded that the companies had demonstrated that the merger, with the conditions described below, will be in the public interest. However, based on a case-by-case analysis which determined that there was a potential for competitive harm in the six markets listed below, the FCC is requiring that one of the two companies divest the licenses and related operational and network assets in those markets.

Cellular Market Area	Name
CMA248	Burlington, Vermont
CMA560	New York 2 - Franklin
CMA679	Vermont 1 - Franklin
CMA680	Vermont 2 - Addison
CMA694	Washington 2 - Okanogan
CMA695	Washington 3 - Ferry

Overall, the licenses and authorizations transferred in the merger include Cellular licenses, Broadband Personal Communications Service (PCS) licenses, Local Multipoint Distribution Service licenses, Local Television Transmission Service licenses, Common Carrier Fixed Point-to-Point Microwave licenses, and two international authorizations.

Action by the Commission, and effective upon adoption, August 1, 2008, by Memorandum Opinion and Order and Declaratory Ruling (FCC 08-181). Chairman Martin, Commissioners McDowell and Tate; Commissioner Adelstein approving in part, concurring in part and issuing a statement; Commissioner Copps approving in part, dissenting in part and issuing a statement.

For additional information, contact Erin McGrath at (202) 418-2042 or Erin.McGrath@fcc.gov; or Susan Singer at (202) 418-1340 or Susan.Singer@fcc.gov. WT Docket No. 07-208